

years, already 6 miles of the glacier at its edge is receding. How it recedes is, it breaks off, and in the particular fjord or river we went to, we could see these big chunks of ice falling off the glacier into the fjord, floating down the fjord, and out into the Atlantic Ocean.

When they get into the Atlantic Ocean, they are what you have always heard, an iceberg. What we saw as we went around these icebergs in a little boat, huge mounds of ice, but that is only 10 percent of it above the surface of the water. Ninety percent is underneath. Then they get on out into the Atlantic and they melt.

The long and short of it is, if that entire glacier on Greenland were to melt—this is going to surprise you—the seas of the entire planet would rise 21 feet.

Now, obviously that is going to take a long period of time. But you can imagine if we do not reverse what, in fact, is happening—and do not give me this stuff that one person says global warming is true and another person says it is not true and the press treats it as if one is balancing against the other.

No; 99.99 percent of the scientists say global warming is a fact. A de minimis amount say it is not. Let's recognize the science, and this is where you have seen that major committee in the United Nations receive one-half of the Nobel Prize, along with the former Vice President of the United States.

Global warming is a fact. You can imagine if seas start to rise. Suppose they rise, not 21 feet but 3 feet. Do you know what would happen to the coast of Florida? To the coast of Louisiana? To parts coming in around Hilton Head and Charleston and Houston and even all the way up the eastern seaboard?

The stakes are too high. That is why I am cosponsoring this bill. This bill made some progress last week when it was approved by a subcommittee on the Environment and Public Works Committee. The full committee should be taking it up soon. I hope we get action and we can get out on the floor of the Senate and debate it.

I hope to be able to bring to this debate the information of a bunch of us, led by Senator BOXER, who are going to go to Bali, Indonesia, for a global conference for world climate change to get the input of the other nations of the world that have shown they are a lot more concerned about this than the United States has been in the last few years.

I wish to thank our colleagues, all who have been involved. I wish to thank Senator BOXER for her leadership. I wish to thank Senator WARNER, who did not have to do this; he is retiring from the Senate, the senior Senator from Virginia. He is a conservative Republican, but he knows that planet Earth is in peril.

I wish to thank Senator LIEBERMAN, who has been at the forefront of these environmental issues for years. I am

glad to add my voice to their clarion cry for immediate action before it is too late.

I yield the floor and suggest the absence of a quorum.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CONCLUSION OF MORNING BUSINESS

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Morning business is now closed.

FARM, NUTRITION, AND BIOENERGY ACT OF 2007

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the Senate will proceed to the consideration of H.R. 2419, which the clerk the report.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (H.R. 2419) to provide for the continuation of agricultural programs through fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 3500

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I have an amendment at the desk.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report.

The Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), for himself, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. BAUCUS, and Mr. GRASSLEY, proposes an amendment numbered 3500.

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

(The amendment is printed in today's RECORD under "Text of Amendments.")

Mr. HARKIN. Mr. President, that was simply the House bill that came over and was at the desk. On behalf of Senator CHAMBLISS, myself, and others, I offer the substitute amendment as the Senate-passed bill. That is what is now pending at the desk.

Today begins the deliberation and amendments on the 2007 Food and Energy Security Act, otherwise known as the farm bill.

I intend to take some time to lay out basically the farm bill and the different titles, some of the things we did in committee, approaches that were done in the past, and what we are looking at in this farm bill. So I will take some time this afternoon to do that.

As I understand it, under the previous order, there will be no amendments in order today.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator is correct.

Mr. HARKIN. It will be opening statements on the bill itself, and we

will proceed to amendments tomorrow at whatever time the Senate convenes.

Mr. President, on behalf of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, I am pleased to bring to the floor the Food and Energy Security Act of 2007, which enjoys broad bipartisan support among all our committee members. In fact, we reported it out by voice vote without a negative vote among the Senators who were present. We had a quorum present.

I thank our ranking member, the senior Senator from Georgia, SAXBY CHAMBLISS, for his leadership and partnership in producing the bill, along with the chairman and ranking member of the Finance Committee, Senator BAUCUS and Senator GRASSLEY, as well as chairman of the Budget Committee, Senator CONRAD.

We generally refer to this legislation as the farm bill. But that title doesn't do justice to the range and scope of the bill. Yes, the bill helps farmers and ranchers who produce an abundance of food and fiber and are contributing ever more to our Nation's energy security. The bill also helps conserve and protect the environment on tens of millions of acres of farmland, rangeland, and wetlands. It is the most important legislation to allow millions of low-income American families put food on the table. It is the single most important legislation for boosting economic growth in jobs and improving the quality of life in rural communities across our Nation.

We have faced a huge challenge in writing this legislation this year. When we wrote the last farm bill in 2002, we had about \$73 billion of new money over 10 years to invest. But for this bill, this year, we barely had any funding above baseline. Fortunately, we have had some help from the Finance Committee in obtaining additional funds. We have also reexamined all of the spending in our baseline to come up with budget offsets. We have combined these funds and produced what I believe is a forward-looking bill to make historic investments in energy, conservation, nutrition, rural development, and promoting better diets and health for all Americans. It also maintains a strong safety net for America's farm producers.

The bill looks to the future and creates new opportunities in agriculture and rural communities. Yet I emphasize that this bill complies with the strict pay-as-you-go budget rules we adopted earlier this year.

This legislation continues a strong system of farm income protection. It is a truism that we have heard many times but "no farms, no food." Our Nation needs programs that will help farm and ranch families survive the inevitable downturns in markets, disasters, and crop failures. We need these programs so that the cycles of markets and weather do not force out of agriculture people who are so vital to grow food, fiber and, increasingly, energy for our Nation.